AF – Quaking Aspen Forest (Map Unit 11)



Photo credit: Jim Von Loh



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The Quaking Aspen Forest (AF, Map Unit 11) represents a combination of *Populus tremuloides* (Quaking Aspen) Forest Alliance and the *Populus tremuloides* / *Juniperus communis* (Quaking Aspen / Common Juniper) Forest Association.

This map unit occupies mesic sites such as the heads of drainages, moist slopes along the margins of stands of *Picea pungens / Juniperus communis* (Colorado Blue Spruce / Common Juniper) Forest and *Pseudostuga menziesii / Juniperus communis* (Douglas-fir / Common Juniper) Forest, and some shallow drainages. Slopes are shallow to moderately steep. The aspects vary a great deal, but stands are more common on northeast to northwest exposures. Individual and small clones of quaking aspen are intermixed into many other forest and woodland types in the monument. The elevation range occupied includes that of the monument, from approximately 8450 feet to 8765 feet.

AF – Quaking Aspen Fprest (Map Unit 11) Continued

Photo Signatures

The Quaking aspen Forest Alliance and Quaking aspen / common juniper Forest Association are nearly impossible to distinguish from one another. In the natural color aerial photography, AF appears as light green, and in the color infrared aerial photography it appears as dark red. In both types of photography, it has a medium mottled texture. The canopy is 60-80% closed and the tree heights vary widely from 15-45 meters. The stands tend to have a rounded or oblong shape, and are relatively small. They are considered a Park Special and are mapped even if below the minimum mapping unit of 0.5 hectares. Photo AF-1 (natural color) was taken in September 1996 and AF-2 (color infrared) was taken in August 1983. Both photos are of the same location

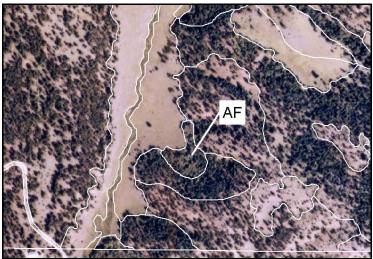
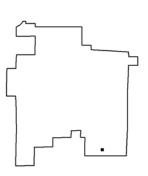


Photo AF-1



Location of **AF-1** within National Monument

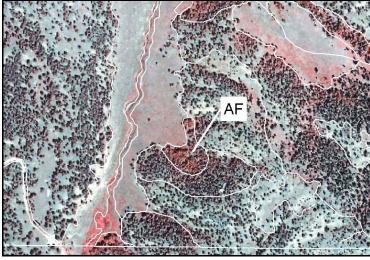
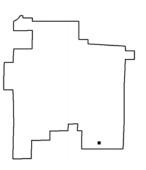


Photo AF-2



Location of **AF-2** within National Monument

AF – Quaking Aspen Forest (Map Unit 11) Continued

Area Report for AF Map Unit

Number of Polygons: 55 Number of Hectares: 28.0 Number of Acres: 69.1

Average Size: 0.5 hectares, 1.3 acres

Accuracy Assessment Results for AF Map Unit

The Quaking Aspen Forest Map Unit was assessed at 100% for producers' accuracy and at 77% users' accuracy (confidence interval 63-91%).